

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 1, 2005 in this Application has been carefully considered. Claims 2-10 and 12-25 are pending. The above amendments and the following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Claims 2-5, 7-9, 12-13, and 15-18 have been amended in this Response. Claims 1 and 11 have been cancelled in this Response. Claims 19-25 are new and have been added in this Response. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the interview conducted on September 29, 2005. During the interview, the above-referenced amendments were discussed.

Claims 1-4 and 11-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) by United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB2094965A by John Miles Kirk ("Miles") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,867,704 by Pellegrino ("Pellegrino"). Insofar as it may be applied against the Claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding Claims 1-4 and 11-12, Miles was cited as assertedly fully disclosing the following: (1) "an apparatus for providing feedback, comprising"; (2) "at least one illumination device (vehicle lights)"; (3) "at least one optical wave guide (2), wherein a first end of the optical wave guide configured to be coupled to the illumination device to receive light"; (4) "a display (1), wherein the display further comprises: being coupled to a second end of the optical waveguide"; (5) "being configured to receive light from the optical waveguide"; and (6) "being configured report the status of the at least one illumination device based on the light received from the at least one optical waveguide as seen in Figures I-VI." Office Action, page 2.

The Examiner noted that Miles "fails to specifically disclose the optical waveguide is an optical fiber." Office Action, page 2. Pellegrino was cited as assertedly fully disclosing the

following: “the light pipe or optical waveguide comprises optical fiber, hollow reflective tube, clear plastic rod as well known in the art.” Office Action, page 2-3. The Examiner further stated that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Miles and Pellegrino in order to “provide a light path from a light source to an indicator for reporting the status of the light source to a user.” Office Action, page 3.

Claims 5-10 and 13-18 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Office Action, page 4. Claims 1 and 11 are cancelled in this Response. Claim 5 has been amended to stand in independent form, including all of the limitations of cancelled Claim 1. Claims 2-4 have been amended to depend from amended Claim 5. Claim 13 has been amended to stand in independent form, including all of the limitation of cancelled Claim 11. Claim 12 has been amended to depend from amended Claim 13. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2-10 and 12-18 are now in condition for allowance and requests that Claims 2-10 and 12-18 be allowed.

Independent Claim 19 is new in this Response. Independent Claim 19 recites one of the distinguishing characteristics of the present invention, namely, “a display coupled to the optical fiber, comprising: a photoelectric detector coupled to the second end of the optical fiber; and an indicator coupled to the photoelectric detector and configured to receive a first signal from the photoelectric detector and to generate an output indication in response to the received first signal.”

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited references do not disclose, teach or suggest the unique combination recited in independent Claim 19. Applicant therefore submits that independent Claim 19 is clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a

patentable sense, and is therefore allowable over these references and the remaining references of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Claim 19 be allowed.

Claims 20-25 depend on and further limit Claim 19. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims would be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that dependent Claims 20-25 also be allowed.

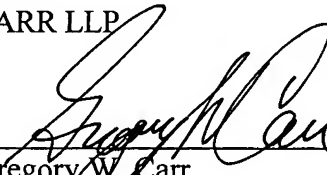
Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 2-10 and 12-25.

Applicant encloses a check in the amount of two hundred seventy (\$270.00) for three claims in excess of twenty and a one-month extension of time. In the event that any other fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CARR LLP



Gregory W. Carr
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Dated: 10/10/05

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Amendments To The Drawings

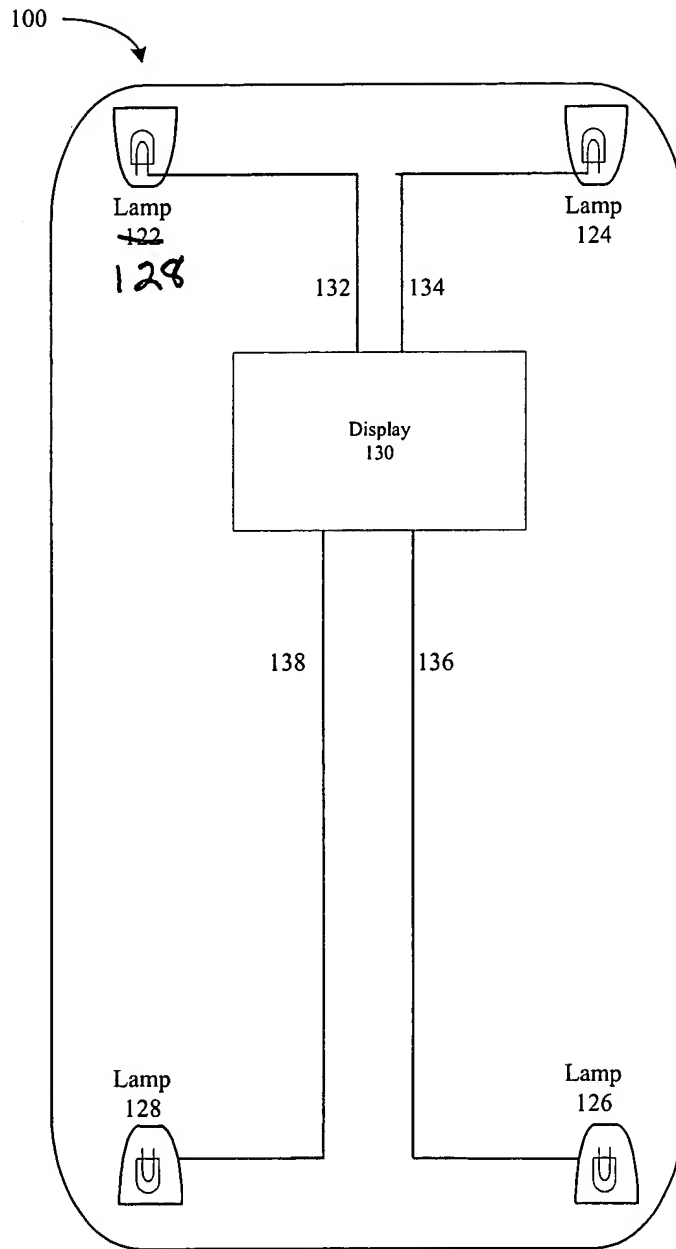
The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1 and Fig 3. The first sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. In Figure 1, change the reference numeral accompanying the lamp coupled to fourth optical fiber 138 from "LAMP 122" to "LAMP 128".

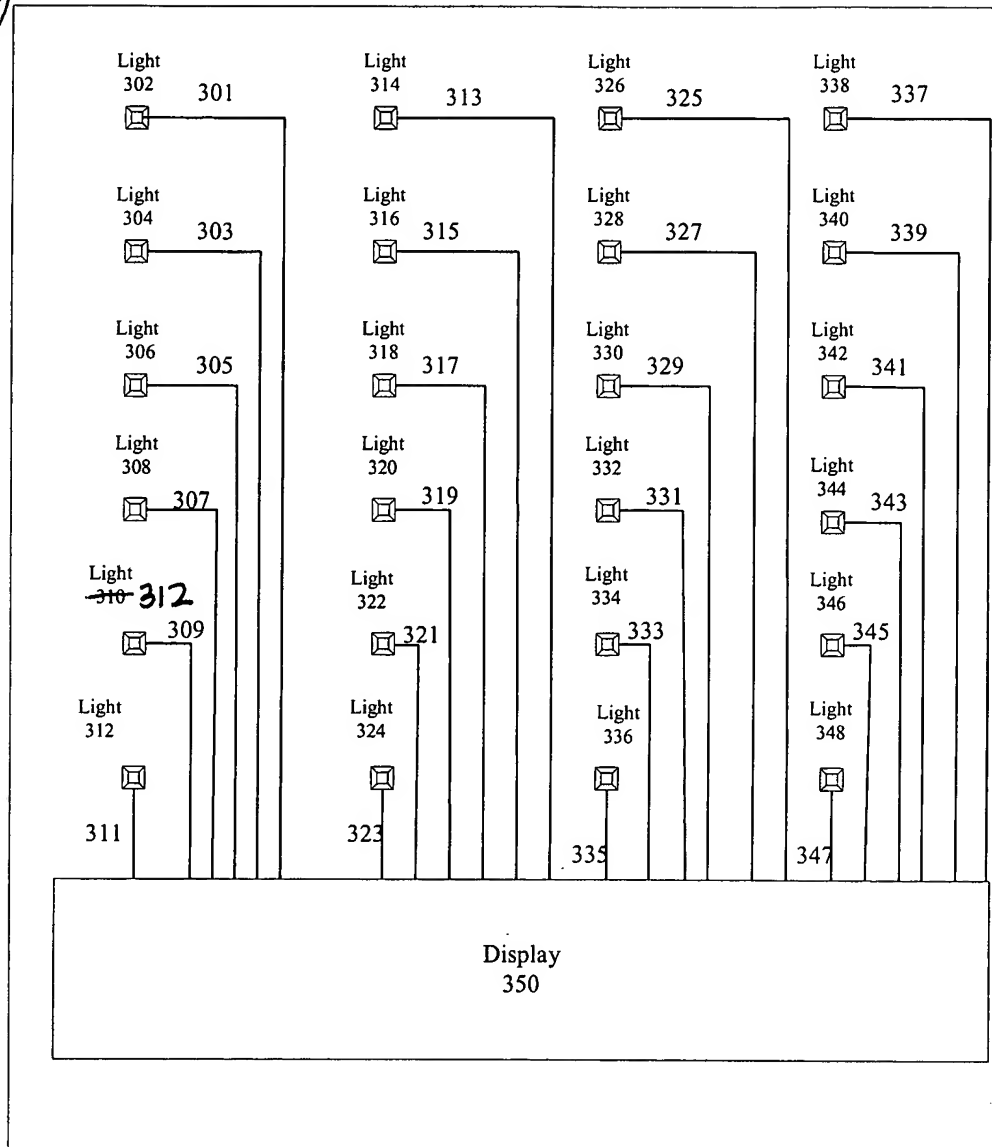
The second sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Figure 3, change the reference numeral accompanying the sixth light coupled to display 530 through the sixth optical fiber 311 from "LIGHT 310" to "LIGHT 312".

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (Fig. 1 and Fig. 3)
Annotated Sheets (Fig. 1 and Fig. 3) Showing Changes



Fig. 1





300

Fig. 3